LANGELL PULLING SKIFF (Huron Boat) Michigan Maritime Museum South Haven Van Buren County Michigan HAER MI-410 *MI-410*

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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD
National Park Service
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LANGELL PULLING SKIFF (HURON BOAT)

HAER No. MI-410

Location: Michigan Maritime Museum Collections, South Haven, Michigan

Date of Construction: 1898

Rig/Type of

Yawl, rowing boat, surf boat

Craft:

Material: Wood

Length: 15 ft. 9-5/8 in.

Beam: 3 ft. 10-1/2 in.

Propulsion: Oar

Builder: Langell Shipyard, Marine City, MI

Present Owner: Michigan Maritime Museum

Present Use: Museum Artifact

Significance: The design and plank on ribs construction is typical of round-hulled

rowing boats of this era. This boat is believed to be built at the Langell Shipyard, Marine City, MI, circa 1898. Ted Richardson, U.S.C.G. Retired, donated the boat and reported that it may have served as a U.S. Life Saving Service surfboat. Of special note is the oval transom and rounded horn timber for the skeg. This is believed to be rebuilt and it is

unknown if this is the original design.

The last repair/reconstruction of this boat was done by Alan Mackey of Mackey Boat Works in Algonac Michigan. He replaced the stern post, horn timber skeg and some planking to restore the boat to a pulling boat after the engine had been removed. The engine was not original but installed at a later (unknown) date. According to Alan the transom appeared to be original when he worked on the boat. He did not replace

it.

Historian: Michigan Maritime Museum with edit from Pete Mathews, volunteer